

# KALOKO-HONOKŌHAU NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK PLANT IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

## ‘A‘ali‘i

*Dodonaea viscosa*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## ‘Ākulikuli

*Sesuvium portulacastrum*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Alahe‘e

*Psychotria odorata*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Alena

*Boerhavia repens*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## ‘A‘ali‘i

- Found on Mauka-Makai trail
- Shrubs or small trees up to 20 feet tall with sticky leaves and bright red-yellow fruit clusters
- Red capsules used for dye
- Fruit and leaves used for leis
- Wood used for ‘o‘o (digging sticks), fish spears, and building
- Branch tips medicinal

## ‘Ākulikuli

- Found parkwide in wetland areas
- Salt tolerant
- Very low crawling ground cover with succulent stems and leaves
- Small white or pink flowers with 5 petals

## Alahe‘e

- Found on Mauka-Makai trail and along the park’s southern boundary
- Large tree 20-30 feet tall with shiny leaves and small clusters of fragrant white flowers
- Wood used for digging sticks (‘o‘o), fishhooks, and adze blades
- Leaves used for black dye

## Alena

- Perennial groundcover with pink stems and tiny clusters of tubular pinkish flowers
- Found on lava flows and beaches
- Medicinal use by Hawaiians

## Asian sword fern

*Nephrolepis brownii*

**Alien**



## Barleria

*Barleria repens*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Bitter Melon

*Momordica charantia*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Buffelgrass

*Cenchrus ciliaris*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Asian sword fern

- Widespread around visitor center paths and along the Mauka-Makai trail
- Native to southeast Asia
- Small to medium fern up to 3 feet tall
- Popular ornamental

## Barleria

- Found throughout the park
- Ground cover up to 2 feet tall introduced as ornamental groundcover
- Also known as coral creeper or small bush violet
- Native to South Africa
- Fast growing and spreads rapidly by seed or rooting stems

## Bitter Melon

- Found along Mauka-Makai trail
- Vine with 5 lobed leaves and twining tendrils found growing in/on other plants
- Ripe orange fruits split into 3 curling segments
- Plants and seeds poisonous; fruits have repulsive odor
- Vines invade native plants and outcompete for resources such as sunlight and water

## Buffelgrass

- Found along Mauka-Makai trail
- Native to Africa and the Middle East
- Small perennial bunchgrass up to 2 feet tall
- Used for erosion control in Hawaii
- Invasive – replaces native pili grass communities



## Ekoka (haole koa)

*Leucaena leucocephala*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Fountain grass

*Pennisetum setaceum*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Hala pepe

*Pleomele aurea*

**Native**

**Endemic/Endangered**

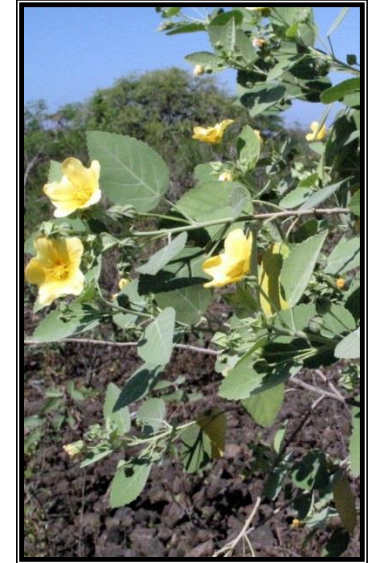


## ʻIlima

*Sida fallax*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Ekoka (haole koa)

- Found parkwide
- Native to tropical America
- Woody shrub or small tree 15-30 feet tall with numerous long brown seed pods and round white flowers
- Wood used as fuel and bark used medicinally
- Invasive - forms dense thickets that crowd out other plants

## Fountain grass

- Found throughout the park
- Large clumps up to 3 feet tall with feathery seed head
- Native to Africa
- Widespread aggressive invasive
- Popular ornamental landscaping plant

## Hala pepe

- Planted near visitor center and on the Mauka-Makai trail
- Shrub or small tree to 30 feet with aerial prop roots
- Root tips medicinal
- Leaves used for weaving (lauhala) mats, fans, sandals, baskets, and bracelets

## ʻIlima

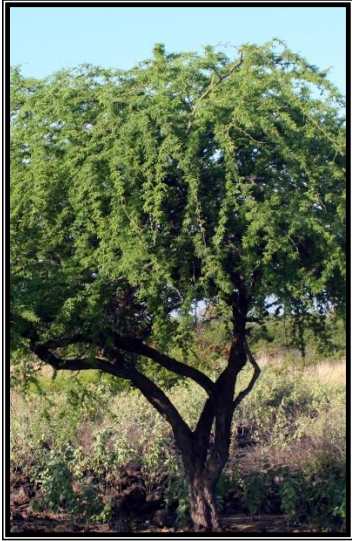
- Found throughout the park
- Groundcover or low lying shrub up to 6 feet tall
- Yellow flowers for leis
- Medicinal uses when combined with other plants
- Official flower of Oʻahu

## Kiawe (mesquite)

*Prosopis pallida*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Ko'oko'olau

*Bidens micrantha*

**Native**

**Endemic**



## Kou

*Cordia subcordata*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Kukui

*Aleurites moluccana*

**Polynesian Introduction**



## Kiawe (mesquite)

- Dense forests found extensively parkwide
- Large trees up to 60 feet tall with wide-spreading crown
- Native to Peru, Columbia, and Ecuador
- Wood used for fuel, flowers for honey, and pods for fodder
- Invasive – deep taproots use all available water, displacing natives

## Ko'oko'olau

- Planted near loulou on Mauka-Makai trail and along the park's southern boundary
- Small to medium shrub up to 10' tall with clusters of yellow orange flowers
- Leaves used for tea
- Medicinal uses

## Kou

- Found on Mauka-Makai trail near quarry pit and along the coastal trail
- Small to medium tree up to 30 feet
- Wood used to make calabashes, bowls, and cups
- Bright orange flowers used in leis
- Edible seeds

## Kukui

- Found on Mauka-Makai trail near beach and along the coastal trail
- Large tree up to 50 feet tall
- Oil from nuts used for lamps
- Red-brown dye from inner bark
- Nuts edible in small amounts
- Polished seeds used in leis



## Lantana

*Lantana camara*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Loulu

*Pritchardia affinis*

**Native**

**Endemic/Endangered**



## Maiapilo

*Capparis sandwichiana*

**Native**

**Endemic/Species of Concern**



## Makaloa

*Cyperus laevigatus*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Lantana

- Found along Mauka-Makai trail
- Native to West Indies, Central and South America.
- Small shrub up to 10 feet tall with aromatic clusters of bright red, yellow, orange, and pink flowers
- Popular landscaping plant that forms dense thickets that crowd out other plants. Shoots and roots contain allelopathic chemicals that inhibit growth of other plants

## Loulu

- Found on Mauka-Makai trail and near visitor center
- Small to medium (30-50 feet) palm tree
- Small fruits on stalks after flowering
- Fronds for thatch and weaving
- Wood for spears
- Predominate tree type in coastal forests in pre-settlement times

## Maiapilo

- Also known as *pua pilo* or Hawaiian caper
- Found along Mauka-Makai trail and around visitor center
- Small shrub 2-3 feet tall with large fragrant white flowers
- Close relative to Mediterranean variety (edible capers)
- Medicinal uses – helps heal broken bones

## Makaloa

- Sedge found near fishponds and around some anchialine pools
- Spreading, grass-like clumps 1 to 2.5 feet tall
- Used for weaving
- Natural food source and shelter for native water birds

## Milo

*Thespesia populnea*

**Polynesian Introduction**



## Naio

*Myoporum sanwicense*

**Native**

**Endemic**

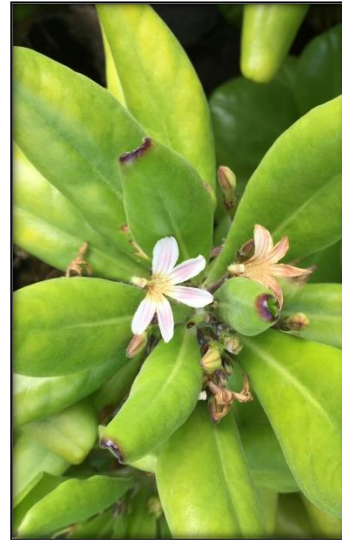


## Naupaka kahakai

*Scaevola taccada*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Nohu

*Tribulus cistoides*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Milo

- Found in coastal areas
- Shade tree up to 40 feet tall with heart shaped leaves and large brownish grey seed capsule
- Wood for poi calabashes and platters
- Fibers for cordage
- Fruit wall for yellow-green dye

## Naio

- Also known as False Sandalwood
- Found along Mauka-Makai trail
- Small to medium shrub 5-6 feet tall
- Wood was used in *hale* (house) construction and thatching support
- Leaves used medicinally as an asthma treatment as well as other lung ailments

## Naupaka kahakai

- Found in coastal areas
- 3-10 foot tall shrub with bright green succulent leaves
- Fragrant white flowers with 5 petals on one side (looks like flower split in half)
- Powdered bark and leaves used medicinally
- Edible berries
- Wood for pegs used in shipbuilding

## Nohu

- Found along the coastal trail
- Perennial ground cover growing in low spreading mats with yellow flowers
- Used medicinally



## Noni

*Morinda citrifolia*

**Polynesian Introduction**



## ʻŌhai

*Sesbania tomentosa*

**Native**

**Endemic/Endangered**



## Pā`ū o hi`iaka

*Jacquemontia ovalifolia*

*subsp. sandwicensis*

**Native**

**Endemic**

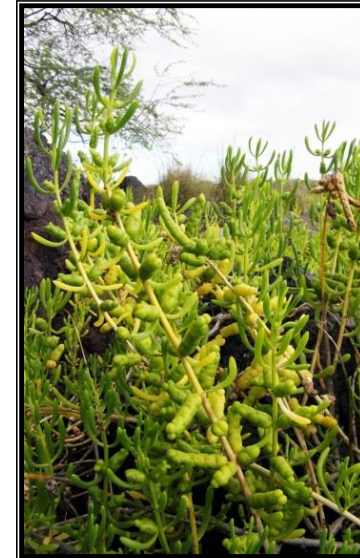


## Pickleweed

*Batis maritima*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Noni

- Found throughout the park
- Native to southeast Asia and Australia
- Shrub or small tree 10-20 feet tall with large oval yellow/white fruit
- Leaves, fruit, and bark medicinal (noni juice is a common health supplement, possible anti-cancer treatment)
- Inner bark used for red and roots used for yellow dyes

## ʻŌhai

- Found in visitor center planter
- Sprawling shrub with branches up to 45 feet long, or small tree up to 25 feet tall with silvery leaves (due to dense covering of fine hairs)
- Small clusters of 2-9 salmon orange colored flowers
- No reported uses

## Pā`ū o hi`iaka

- Found along rocky coastal sites and around wetland areas
- Ground cover/vine up to 10 feet long with small white or lavender cup shaped flowers
- Leaves used medicinally
- Vines braided and used as lashing when other fibers were not available

## Pickleweed

- Found in wetland areas near fishponds and at Honokōhau Beach
- Low shrub 2-3 feet tall with succulent leaves
- Native to Galapagos Islands and coastal tropical America
- Grows and spreads rapidly and blocks freshwater springs that feed the fish ponds

## Pigweed

*Portulaca oleracea*

**Alien**

**Invasive**



## Pili, spear grass

*Heteropogon contortus*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Pōhuehue

*Ipomoea pes-caprae* subsp.

*brasiliensis*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## Pua kala

*Argemone glauca*

**Native**

**Endemic**



## Pigweed

- Origin uncertain
- Ground cover up to 12 inches tall with red stems, green-red spatula shaped leaves, and yellow flowers
- Leaves and stems medicinal
- Invasive weed that displaces native coastal plants

## Pili

- Found on interpretive trail near visitor center and on Mauka-Makai trail
- Perennial grass with tufts up to 3 feet tall
- Used as thatch for homes (*hale*) by early Hawaiian settlers
- Burned blades used for black dye

## Pōhuehue

- Found on beaches and inland trails (near petroglyphs)
- Trailing vine up to 16' in length with large pink or light purple bell shaped flowers
- Famine food
- Medicinal uses

## Pua kala

- Also known as Hawaiian poppy
- Found along sides of roads and trails
- Biennial plants 1-4 feet tall with large papery white flowers and spiny leaves
- Sap used medicinally

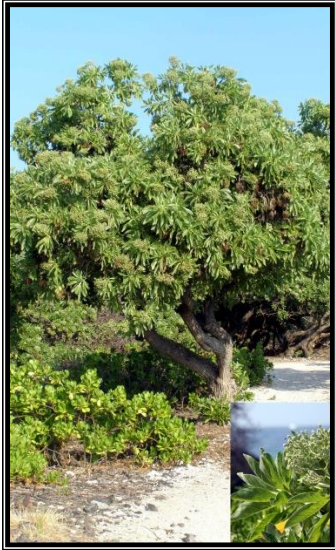


## Tree heliotrope

*Tournefortia argentea*

**Alien**

**Naturalized**



## ‘Uhaloa

*Waltheria indica*

**Native**

**Indigenous**



## ‘Ūlei

*Osteomeles anthyllidifolia*

**Native**

**Indigenous**

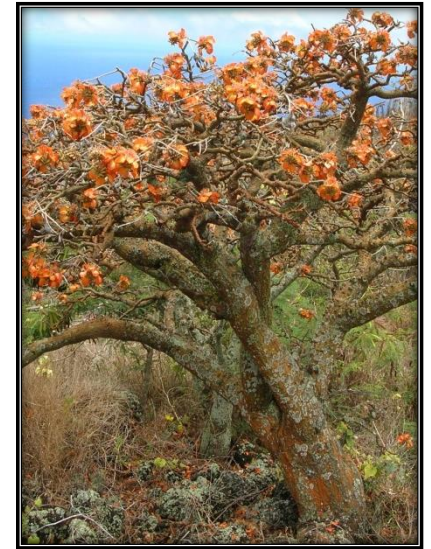


## Wiliwili

*Erythrina sandwicensis*

**Native**

**Endemic**



## Tree Heliotrope

- Found in coastal areas
- Native to tropical Asia
- Small tree up to 20 feet with cluster of white flowers at branch tips
- Leaves used as famine food in Maldives

## ‘Uhaloa

- Found throughout the park
- Small shrub 2-6 feet tall with small clusters of fragrant yellow flowers
- Stems, leaves, and powdered bark used medicinally

## ‘Ūlei

- Also known as Hawaiian rose
- Shrubs up to 10 feet tall with white flowers
- Wood used for ‘o‘o (digging sticks) and fish spears
- Branches used for baskets and fish nets
- Berries used for food, lavender dye, and leis

## Wiliwili

- Hawaiian name means “twisted twisted”
- Small tree 15-55 feet tall with short, gnarled trunk and orange flowers
- Orange furrowed bark with ½ inch long thorns
- Balsa-like wood used for fishing floats, canoe outriggers, and early surfboards
- Seeds used for leis